

# News

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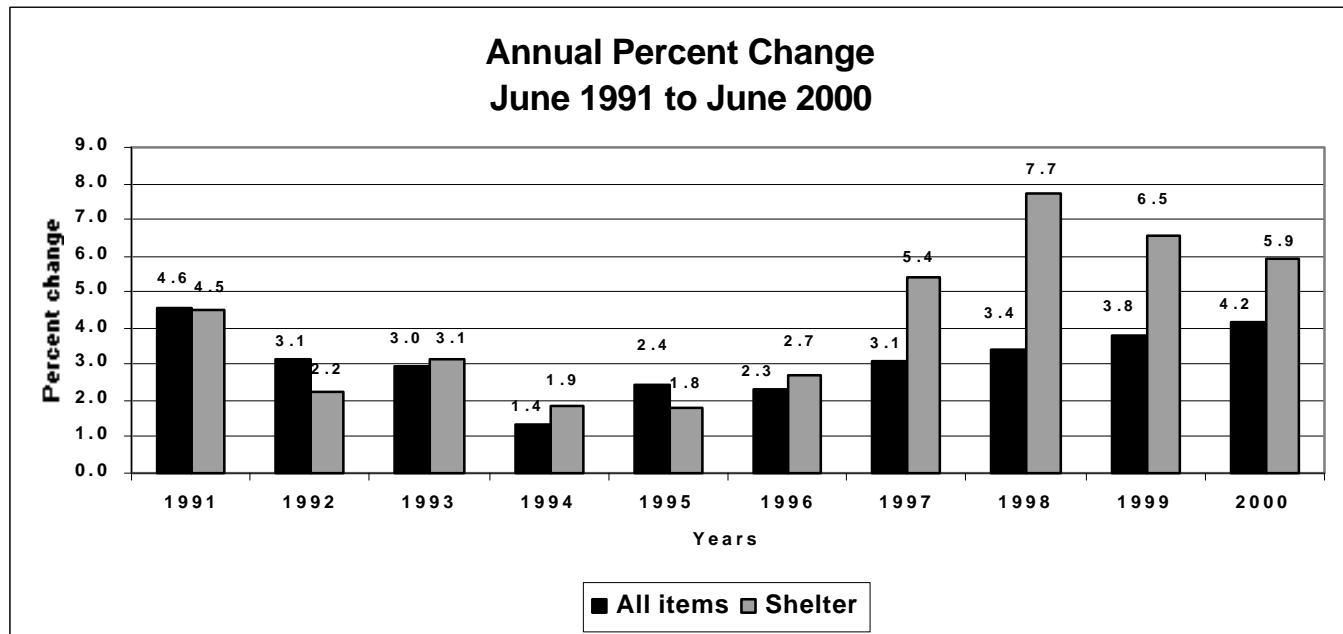
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BLS 00-42  
FOR RELEASE:  
Tuesday, July 18, 2000

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CONSUMER PRICES RISE 0.2 PERCENT FROM APRIL TO JUNE

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today overall consumer prices in the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose area advanced a moderate 0.2 percent for the past two months. According to Regional Commissioner Stanley P. Stephenson higher housing costs and food prices were largely responsible for the overall increase to the index. Year-to-date, Bay Area prices have increased 2.6 percent matching the same respective period in 1999. During the past 12 months, overall prices have increased 4.2 percent. Since June 1999, the all items less food and energy index, or "core rate", increased 4.0 percent. Local area Consumer Price Index (CPI) data are not seasonally adjusted.

Rising 0.5 percent in the past two months, the housing index led all major expenditure categories by providing the strongest upward pressure to the overall index. Housing costs have advanced 5.6 percent since June 1999. Shelter costs increased 0.4 percent for the two-month period, and 5.9 percent during the past 12 months. The over-the-year increase in shelter compares to 7.7 percent and 6.5 percent in the years ending June 1998 and June 1999, respectively. Within shelter, rent of primary residence in



the Bay Area rose a moderate 0.3 percent over-the-month, and continues an uninterrupted climb since January 1995. In comparison, owners' equivalent rent advanced 0.6 percent for the month, and has continuously increased since September 1996. During the past 12 months, rent of primary residence and homeowners' equivalent rent have advanced 6.3 percent and 5.0 percent, respectively. Also contributing to higher housing costs, the fuels and utilities index jumped 3.9 percent for the latest two-month period. Influenced by baseline allowance, utility natural gas increased 16.1 percent since April. Electricity costs rose 0.6 percent for the two-month period. Conversely, the household furnishings and operations index declined 0.5 percent in the past two months.

Since April, overall food and beverages rose 1.2 percent, influenced heavily by higher grocery prices that advanced 1.5 percent. Grocery prices, as measured by the food at home index, are 2.8 percent above levels a year ago. The cost for dining out increased 0.5 percent in the past two months, and is 1.8 percent higher than last year's level. Alcoholic beverages' prices rose 1.1 percent from April to June, after posting a 0.8 percent decline the previous two-month period.

Recreation costs jumped 1.0 percent in June, while showing a decrease of 2.1 percent over the past 12 months. Medical care cost advanced 0.4 percent since April, and 2.6 percent from a year ago.

Overall transportation costs, driven by gasoline prices, measured a decrease of 0.7 percent for the two-month period, while showing a 5.6 percent gain over last year's level. Gasoline prices declined 1.0 percent over the past month, and show a drop of 5.9 percent since April. Nevertheless, consumers are paying 17.7 percent more for gasoline than they were in June 1999.

During the past two months, the apparel index provided strong downward pressure to the overall index. Apparel prices declined 3.2 percent from April to June, after registering a 1.7 percent rise the previous two-month period. Following seasonal patterns, the apparel index has posted declines each June since 1997. Nevertheless, prices for apparel are 3.3 percent higher than a year ago.

Education and communication costs declined 0.1 percent in the past two months, but measure 3.1 percent above last year's level. The cost of other goods and services also decreased 0.1 percent since April, while advancing 3.6 percent since June 1999.

The June 0.2 percent increase brought the All Items, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area to 179.0 (1982-84=100). This means a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84 would have cost \$179.00 in June 2000.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Apr. 2000	May 2000	June 2000	June 1999	Apr. 2000	May 2000
Expenditure category						
All items .....	178.6	-	179.0	4.2	0.2	-
All items (1967=100) .....	549.2	-	550.4	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	173.3	-	175.3	2.4	1.2	-
Food .....	174.0	-	176.0	2.4	1.1	-
Food at home .....	178.1	178.7	180.8	2.8	1.5	1.2
Food away from home .....	170.0	-	170.8	1.8	0.5	-
Alcoholic beverages .....	168.4	-	170.2	1.2	1.1	-
Housing .....	194.3	-	195.3	5.6	0.5	-
Shelter .....	218.8	219.4	219.6	5.9	0.4	0.1
Rent of primary residence (1).....	224.2	225.6	226.2	6.3	0.9	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (1) (2) .....	233.5	233.9	235.2	5.0	0.7	0.6
Fuels and utilities .....	148.0	-	153.7	4.8	3.9	-
Fuels .....	144.3	149.4	152.4	5.7	5.6	2.0
Gas (piped) and electricity (1).....	143.5	148.8	151.5	5.4	5.6	1.8
Electricity (1).....	158.0	158.8	158.9	0.0	0.6	0.1
Utility natural gas service (1).....	132.8	146.5	154.2	16.7	16.1	5.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	130.5	-	129.9	2.9	-0.5	-
Apparel .....	117.1	-	113.3	3.3	-3.2	-
Transportation .....	143.6	-	142.6	5.6	-0.7	-
Private transportation .....	136.4	-	134.4	4.3	-1.5	-
Motor fuel .....	145.1	137.7	136.4	17.7	-6.0	-0.9
Gasoline (all types) .....	143.4	136.2	134.9	17.7	-5.9	-1.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular (3).....	141.7	134.2	132.9	18.8	-6.2	-1.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade (3) (4).....	136.8	129.5	128.4	15.7	-6.1	-0.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium (3).....	140.2	134.2	132.9	16.2	-5.2	-1.0
Medical care .....	237.6	-	238.5	2.6	0.4	-
Recreation (5).....	94.6	-	95.5	-2.1	1.0	-
Education and communication (5).....	105.6	-	105.5	3.1	-0.1	-
Other goods and services .....	289.2	-	288.8	3.6	-0.1	-

See footnotes at end of table.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (Continued)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Apr. 2000	May 2000	June 2000	June 1999	Apr. 2000	May 2000
Commodity and service group						
All items .....	178.6	-	179.0	4.2	0.2	-
Commodities .....	150.0	-	149.0	2.6	-0.7	-
Commodities less food and beverages .....	133.8	-	131.3	2.8	-1.9	-
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	144.8	-	141.0	4.8	-2.6	-
Durables .....	118.8	-	118.1	0.0	-0.6	-
Services .....	202.5	-	204.0	5.2	0.7	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care .....	175.8	-	176.2	4.3	0.2	-
All items less shelter .....	163.5	-	163.7	3.1	0.1	-
Commodities less food .....	135.9	-	133.6	2.8	-1.7	-
Nondurables .....	160.3	-	159.3	3.5	-0.6	-
Nondurables less food .....	147.0	-	143.5	4.5	-2.4	-
Services less rent of shelter (2) .....	191.7	-	194.3	3.9	1.4	-
Services less medical care services .....	200.1	-	201.6	5.3	0.7	-
Energy .....	144.5	141.9	142.3	12.5	-1.5	0.3
All items less energy .....	183.1	-	183.7	3.8	0.3	-
All items less food and energy .....	185.2	-	185.5	4.0	0.2	-

1 This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

2 Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

3 Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

4 Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

5 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.